

REMARKS

In the Office Action dated April 6, 2005, claims 1-20 are pending. Claims 1, 11-12, 16, and 19 are independent claims from which all other claims depend therefrom. Claims 11-12 and 16-19 have been amended. Claims 1-10 stand allowed. Applicant recognizes the allowability of claims 12 and 16-19 if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 12, 16, and 19 are herein rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the originally filed base claim 11, and thus are now allowable. Applicant submits that since claims 17-18 are herein amended to depend from claim 16, that they are also in allowable form.

The Office Action states that the drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they do not include reference signs mentioned in the description. Specifically, the Office Action states that the references signs 39 and 50" mentioned in the specification are missing. Paragraph [0040] is herein amended such that the reference to 50" is amended to 50', which is shown in Figure 3. Paragraph [0062] is herein amended such that the reference to 39 is amended to 30, which is shown in Figure 1.

The Office Action states that the disclosure is objected to because of informality reasons. Specifically, the Office Action states that in paragraph 56 it appears that the designation of "step 138" should be "step 128". Paragraph 56 is herein amended to correct the designation to "step 128".

Claims 17 and 18 stand objected to because of informality reasons. Specifically, the Office Action states that "said protection element" and "said integrator" lack antecedent basis. Claims 17 and 18 are herein amended to depend from claim 16 in which proper antecedent basis is provided.

The Office Action further states that claims 11 and 13-14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Petrick et al. (U.S. Patent No.

U.S.S.N. 10/604,454

10

132000XZ (GEMS 0201 PA)

5,920,070) in view of Applicant's Own Admission of Prior Art, hereinafter referred to as APA.

Amended claim 11 includes the limitations of a controller that is electrically coupled to a readout circuit. The controller detects a change in bias between a data line and a common contact. The controller also adjusts the active voltage potential of the common contact to an active non-zero voltage potential in response to the bias change.

Applicant submits that Petrick and the APA does not teach or suggest a controller as claimed that detects a change in bias between a data line and a common contact and adjusts the active voltage potential of the common contact to an active non-zero voltage potential in response to that bias change. Note it is admitted in paragraph 7 of the Office Action that Petrick fails to disclose the limitations of adjusting voltage potential of a common contact in response to the charge across the photodiodes.

Referring to MPEP 706.02(j) and 2143, to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness the prior art reference(s) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. See *In re Vaack*, 947 F.2d 488, 20 USPQ2d 1438 (Fed. Cir. 1991). Thus, Applicant submits that Petrick and the APA alone or in combination fail to teach or suggest each and every limitation of claim 11, therefore, claim 11 is novel, nonobvious, and is in a condition for allowance at least in view of Petrick and the APA. Since claims 13-14 depend from claim 11, they too are also novel, nonobvious, and are in a condition for allowance for at least the same reasons.

Claim 15 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Petrick et al. and APA, as applied to claims 11 and 14, and further in view of Kimura et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,399,950).

Kimura discloses a two-dimensional radiation detector. The detector includes a bias electrode 2 that is biased via a bias source E. A current detector 21 and a switch 20 are disposed between the electrode 2 and the source E. The

U.S.S.N. 10/604,454

11

132000XZ (GEMS 0201 PA)

switch has an ON state and an OFF state, which is controlled via a control circuit 22. The control circuit 22 opens the switch 20 to be in an OFF state when the current detected by the current detector 21 exceeds a predetermined value. This is performed to prevent saturation of the condenser 6.

With respect to claim 11, Applicant submit that Kimura, like Petrick and the APA, fails to disclose the detection of a change in bias between a data line and a common contact and the adjustment of a voltage potential of the common contact to an active non-zero voltage potential in response to the bias change. Kimura does not adjust active voltage potential of the source E in response to a bias change between a data line and a common contact. Kimura simply switches the source E to an OFF state based on current to the current detector 21. When in an OFF state a device clearly does not provide an active voltage potential. There is a distinct difference between adjusting voltage potential and simply shutting off or deactivating the voltage potential source.

Thus, Petrick, APA, and Kimura fail to teach or suggest each and every limitation of claim 11, therefore, claim 11 is novel, nonobvious, and is in a condition for allowance. Since claim 15 depends from claim 11, it is novel, nonobvious, and allowable for at least the same reasons.

Claim 20 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Petrick as applied to claim 11 and further in view of Sako et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,714,623).

Applicant submits that since claim 20 depends from now allowable claim 11, that it too is novel, nonobvious, and allowable for at least the same reasons.

U.S.S.N. 10/604,454

12

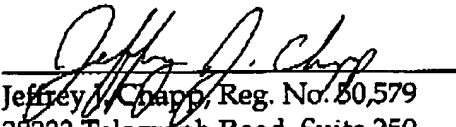
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In light of the amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that all of the objections and rejections are now overcome. The Applicant has added no new matter to the application by these amendments. The application is now in condition for allowance and expeditious notice thereof is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 50-0476.

Respectfully submitted,

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